

**2014
UTAH BOARD OF OIL, GAS AND MINING
EARTH DAY AWARDS**

Nomination Form

Nominee Information

Company Name PacifiCorp/Energy West Mining Company
Address P.O. Box 310
City, State, Zip Huntington, UT 84528
Contact Person Ken Fleck, Manager of Geology and Environmental Affairs
Phone (435) 687-4712
Site Name Byron Howard Mine/Deer Creek Mine
Location Huntington Canyon

Activity and Category (Please check one activity and one category)

Activity

- Oil and Gas
- Minerals
- ☒ • Coal

Category

- Environmental improvement to an active mine site, drilling or recovery site, or field
- Outstanding results following applications of innovative environmental technology
- ☒ • Outstanding final reclamation or site restoration
- Best practices
- Other _____

Nominated By

Name UDOGM Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program & URS Corporation, Inc.
Address 1594 W. North Temple, Suite 1210
City, State, Zip Salt Lake City, UT 84116
Phone (801) 538-5286

Nomination Summary (attach additional sheets, photos, etc., as necessary)

Please see attached nomination letter.

Return no later than January 31, 2014 to: Earth Day Awards, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210, P.O. Box 145801. Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801. Phone (801) 538-5324 Fax (801) 359-3940. Nominations may also be submitted electronically, email to jimspringer@utah.gov

Please accept this nomination of Energy West Mining Company (EWMC) and Deer Creek Coal Mine for the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining 2014 Earth Day Award. Offering the use of the Deer Creek Waste Rock Site allowed the DOGM Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program (AMRP) to stay within budget and timeline for the Byron Howard Abandoned Mine Reclamation Project.

HISTORY OF THE PROJECT

The Byron Howard Mine was actively mined from 1937 through 1966. In 1991, the Byron Howard Mine was included in an AMRP reclamation project that included closure of the portals, demolition and removal of the structures and cleanup of debris. In 2011, a new site investigation was performed to develop a plan to address environmental impacts arising from the surface exposed coal refuse. Based on the results of this investigation, a new reclamation project proposal was undertaken to excavate the residual onsite coal and non-coal refuse and dispose of it at an off-site location.

The photos below were taken in the spring and fall of 2011 and show the exposed coal refuse at the site, including coal refuse that has migrated into the Deer Creek stream channel.





2013 CONSTRUCTION

In September, 2013, reclamation construction began at the Byron Howard site. The new reclamation plan called for the coal refuse to be excavated and removed from the site. The Site disturbances were reseeded and reclaimed by placing revegetation matting and hydromulch to stabilize the site and encourage vegetation to grow. It had been estimated that almost 7,500 tons of coal refuse and roughly 200 tons of non-coal waste would need to be excavated from the site. As excavation progressed into the end of October, it became evident that the amount of coal onsite exceeded the original estimate. Seeking an alternative to additional trips to the Emery County Landfill and to keep project costs down, the construction inspector contacted Ken Fleck (EWMC) to request the use of the Deer Creek Waste Rock Site. On October 25, 2013, Mr. Fleck authorized the AMRP to dispose of up to 3,000 tons of coal refuse at the waste rock disposal site. Over the following week, the AMRP construction contractor disposed of 2,100 tons of coal refuse at the Deer Creek Waste Rock Site. By allowing the use of the waste rock site over that week, Energy West Mining Company and the Deer Creek Mine saved the AMRP almost \$60,000 in additional haulage and disposal costs.

In addition to their critical support in providing the supplemental waste disposal space (and resulting cost savings), the Deer Creek Mine/EWMC personnel were extremely helpful and accommodating throughout the duration of this project. Their professionalism, cooperation and assistance were crucial to the successful completion of the Byron Howard reclamation project on-time and within budget.

The photos below show the AMRP contractor dumping coal refuse at the waste rock site and the site after construction activities were finished.

